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ASSOCIATION OF BAY AREA GOVERNMENTS

Representing City and County Governments of the San Francisco Bay Area



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**CALFED Bay-Delta Program
1997 Category III
Ecosystem Restoration Projects and Programs**

Title: Demonstration Project for the Protection and Enhancement of Delta In-Channel Islands

Applicant: Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) for the San Francisco Estuary Project (SFEP)

ABAG: Eugene Leong, Executive Director
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Type of Org: ABAG is a Joint Powers State Agency - Council of Governments

Tax ID #: 94-2832478

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Participants and Collaborators: San Francisco Estuary Project's Delta In-Channel Islands Work Group. Participants include: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9, CALFED Bay-Delta Program, Calif. Dept. of Fish and Game, Calif. Dept. of Water Resources, Calif. Dept. of Boating and Waterways, State Lands Commission, Delta Protection Commission, landowners, reclamation districts, environmental and boating groups, engineering firms.

Project Group Type(s): Construction; Services

Applicant Authorized Signature:

Eugene Y. Leong
Eugene Y. Leong, Executive Director

7/25/97
Date

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**CALFED Bay-Delta Program
1997 Category III
Ecosystem Restoration Projects and Programs**

I. Executive Summary

A. Project Title

Demonstration Project for the Protection and Enhancement of Delta In-Channel Islands

Applicant

Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) for the San Francisco Estuary Project (SFEP)

B. Project Description and Primary Biological Objectives

The goal of the proposed demonstration project is to restore and preserve Delta in-channel islands and associated habitats by undertaking the design and construction of several small restoration projects, demonstrating and evaluating a variety of biotechnical techniques which can be used for future Delta-wide restoration, and producing a report or handbook which can guide future in-channel island restoration. This project was formulated by the San Francisco Estuary Project's Delta in-channel islands work group, which reviewed and researched a number of candidate islands and investigated available biotechnical techniques for erosion control, land restoration, and revegetation. The work group will continue in an oversight role to provide advice and technical expertise and review of the demonstration projects.

The proposed project would result in the protection and restoration of tidally influenced Delta habitats with minimization of impact to existing ecological values. Projects completed in 1994 and 1995 on in-channel islands around Staten Island demonstrated the ability to restore island land mass and accomplish erosion protection, but raised concerns about over-use of "hard" materials in such projects. The proposed project will build upon past experience but focus on biotechnical techniques to accomplish restoration objectives. Other benefits on a programmatic level are the implementation of both CALFED's goals, objectives and actions and the Estuary Project's *Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan* (CCMP).

C. Approach

The approach is a comparative demonstration project using several different types of bio-engineering materials to evaluate construction methods for shoreline protection and erosion prevention on in-channel islands. The demonstration project will educate participants and the general public about the benefits and limitations of the techniques used by producing and widely distributing a final report/guidelines.

D. Justification for Project and Funding by CALFED

Several of CALFED's priority species, including salmon, Delta smelt, Longfin smelt, Sacramento splittail, migratory songbirds and shorebirds, and waterfowl will benefit from the preservation and enhancement of in-channel island habitat. According to CALFED's *Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan, Volume I*, "Many of the Delta channels and their midchannel islands and shoals are changing rapidly because of increased wakes from boats and changes in water velocities." The proposed project's objective is to develop a "suite" of techniques which may be used by agencies, landowners, and non-profit groups to carry out CALFED's *Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan* to "protect existing mid-channel islands and shoals in order to provide high-quality habitat for fish and wildlife dependent on the Bay-Delta." (page 10, Executive Summary and Tables, 4/97); and under Targets,

"maintain existing channel islands and restore 50 - 200 acres of high value islands in selected sloughs and channels in each of the Delta's ecological units (200 to 800) acres total." (page 23, Executive Summary).

E. Budget Costs and Third Party Impacts

The overall budget for the demonstration project is \$1,183,361. In anticipation of getting funds for the actual restoration, work group members have already provided one-time only funds for project definition, site selection, site inventory (flora/fauna, elevation, soils, etc.), and a conceptual engineering design. Funds expended by the work group to date are approximately \$76,300. The voluntary, consensus-based work group members have also provided an additional \$15,000 in in-kind services for participation in committees, review of materials, and field trips. Total amount requested from CALFED is \$946,111. The project will be designed so as to have no adverse impact to ecosystem quality, water quality, water supply reliability, and system vulnerability, as well as recreation, due to construction methods. Precautions will be taken to use best management practices for preventing erosion and resulting sediment problems to water quality.

F. Applicant Qualifications

ABAG is a joint powers state agency owned and operated by the cities and counties of the San Francisco Bay Region, organized in 1961 to solve environmental, land use, housing and economic development problems. The agency works cooperatively through interagency agreements, and memoranda of understanding with other regional, state and federal agencies. ABAG serves as the Estuary Project's fiscal agent.

The Estuary Project is a joint federal/state/local partnership that was established in 1987 under the Clean Water Act's National Estuary Program to develop the CCMP for the Bay-Delta Estuary. The Estuary Project's purpose is to promote effective management, restore water quality and natural resources, while maintaining economic vitality through implementation of the CCMP. SFEP's committees working with agencies, interest groups and consultants have carried out many demonstration projects over the past 10 years to restore and preserve habitat in the Estuary.

G. Monitoring and Data Evaluation

The monitoring plan's purpose is to evaluate the demonstration project's technological and environmental merits. Monitoring may include both physical and biological parameters, and be used in analyzing the effects of techniques used at the sites for stabilizing the islands and facing levees. The work group will review and evaluate the monitoring findings and other criteria such as costs, ease of installation, permitting requirements, and make recommendations for including the information into the guidelines that then will be distributed to the public. The plan is directed at understanding existing and future conditions in the Delta and the mechanisms that contribute to the loss of island habitat.

H. Local Support/Coordination with other Programs

The work group has obtained 18 statements of general support for in-channel islands preservation and enhancement from members of the work group and interested parties (see attached list of Coordination of Efforts signatories). Work group members include state/federal agencies, landowners, reclamation districts, environmental and boating groups, and engineering firms. Letters of permission have been obtained from the owners of the project sites. Significant outreach has been accomplished through regular meetings (meeting materials are sent to over 100 interested parties), newsletter and print media articles. Additionally, the work group coordinates with the Dept. of Water Resources' Sherman Island Levee Habitat Demonstration Project by hearing reports on the project's activities. The regularly scheduled reports provide a method for exchanging information, receiving feedback and providing advice on the project.

**Project: *Demonstration Project for the Protection and Enhancement
 of Delta In-Channel Islands***

II. A - Project Description and Approach

Delta in-channel islands provide habitat for many special status species and are an important fish and wildlife habitat resource as well as providing other valuable functions, such as recreational, aesthetic and levee protection benefits. The San Francisco Estuary Project's Delta in-channel islands work group conceived and designed the demonstration project over an 18-month period to promote better understanding of the suitability and usefulness of various alternative bio-engineering materials and construction techniques in the preservation, restoration and enhancement of in-channel islands. The demonstration project will develop a "suite" of techniques which may be used by agencies, landowners and non-profit groups to carry out the CALFED *Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan* to "protect existing mid-channel islands and shoals in order to provide high-quality habitat for fish and wildlife dependent on the Bay-Delta".

The primary objective of the demonstration project is to provide an assessment of proposed sites and conceptual designs for stabilizing islands in the Delta with an emphasis on bio-engineering treatments that improve riparian and aquatic habitat. The work group's site selection subcommittee has tentatively identified four candidate islands to be fully evaluated as demonstration sites for the project. Three islands are located near Webb Tract in Contra Costa County; one island is in San Joaquin County.

The approach is a comparative demonstration project using several different types of bio-engineering materials to evaluate construction methods and techniques of shoreline protection and erosion prevention on in-channel islands. The project entails several steps including: 1) pre-evaluation of the project sites and base-line habitat valuation (completed); 2) design of a shoreline protection and habitat enhancement component (in-progress); 3) environmental review and permitting for the project (in-progress); 4) construction/installation; 5) monitoring of the various techniques; 6) evaluation and analysis of the various techniques; and 7) preparation and distribution of the guidelines for future projects based on the evaluation and analysis of the techniques. The pre-evaluation consists of a full assessment of the "before" conditions on the project sites, including inventory of flora and fauna, elevation of the islands and surrounding underwater lands, soils and other data. Information and completed reports from the demonstration project will be put on the Estuary Project's homepage on the internet and linked to other appropriate agencies, including CALFED and the Delta Protection Commission.

II. B - Location/Geographic Boundaries

The work group has tentatively selected four demonstration project sites located within the Delta Basin (maps are attached) and include:

Little Tinsley Island

Little Tinsley Island is located in San Joaquin County. The demonstration project will take place on 3.5 acres on the eastern portion of the island along 1,500 linear feet of shoreline, where installation of a series of protective measures will allow a comparison of the cost, ease of installation, and effectiveness of bio-engineering construction techniques. The Noble Yacht Group owns the island and written permission for the demonstration project is on file.

Webb Tract

The Webb Tract Islands are located in Contra Costa County. The demonstration project will install a variety of techniques on three islands with differing elevation and vegetation type to evaluate cost, ease of installation and effectiveness. Island # 3 has scrub, shrub and palustrine forest, and is 55 ft. by 15 ft.; Island # 10 is a submerged island with little vegetation and is 200 ft by 10 ft.; and Island # 21 is an emergent island with scirpus and is 480 ft. by 80 ft. The Webb Tract Islands

are owned by California Dept. of Fish and Game and written permission for the demonstration project is on file.

II. C - Expected Benefits

Stressors - Identified primary stressors include: construction of levees on Delta islands/tracts; dredging activities resulting in loss of in-channel islands; invasive aquatic plants; disturbance caused by human activities such as commercial and recreational boating; loss of shallow water habitat due to channel form changes.

Affected Species - These species include: Delta smelt; Longfin smelt; Splittail; Chinook salmon (spring and winter-run); Striped bass; resident fish species; Bay-Delta aquatic food web organisms; Western pond turtle; Shorebird and Wading Bird Guild; Waterfowl; Upland Game Species; and Neotropical Migratory Bird Guild.

Habitat Types - The identified primary habitat types include: mid-channel islands and shoals; tidal perennial aquatic habitat; shaded riverine aquatic; and emergent marsh.

Biological Benefits - The Delta in-channel islands are the last remnants of Delta native habitat, and have been identified as habitat for many rare and endangered plants, fish, insects, amphibians, and birds. The benefits of the proposed project would be the protection and enhancement of these unvegetated, tidal habitat areas from erosion. The proposal includes a monitoring component, which will identify in a more detailed manner the project benefits. The sites are independent of other land uses and land forms and the demonstration project will have no adverse impacts to water conveyance, flood control, and land uses, such as agriculture, or recreational activities. More importantly, the proposed project will result in demonstrated methods to stabilize or enhance overall Delta habitat.

Programmatic Benefits - Other benefits to third parties on a programmatic level are that the demonstration project carries out both CALFED's goals, objectives and actions and the Estuary Project's CCMP. These efforts implement several actions in the CCMP's Aquatic Resources, Wildlife and Wetlands program areas. The proposal demonstrates coordination and effective collaboration among the participating agencies and interest groups.

In addition, CALFED and the Estuary Project support permit streamlining to clarify and simplify the process of constructing environmental protection and enhancement projects. This project will help meet the streamlining goals for projects on Delta in-channel islands and may demonstrate successful implementation of a § 404 Letter of Permission process (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers).

Compatibility with Other Non-Ecosystem CALFED Objectives (water quality, water supply reliability, and Delta levee system integrity) - Precautions will be taken to use best management practices for preventing erosion and resulting sediment problems. A purpose of the project is to retain on-site sediment to maximize shallow water habitat which will minimize sediment loading in the water column. Additionally, a presumed outcome will be increased deposition of sediment at project sites. One of the benefits of protection and enhancement of Delta in-channel islands is the associated protection from erosion to nearby levees. Thus, the proposed project will support CALFED's goal of providing long-term levee stability.

II. D - Background and Biological/Technical Justification

Background

In 1995, the San Francisco Estuary Project's Delta Geographic Subcommittee determined that there was not consensus on the management of Delta in-channel islands. The committee facilitated a workshop in February 1996 to document the resource problem, institutional and physical

impediments to and possible solutions for the preservation and enhancement of Delta in-channel islands. Over 60 people attended the workshop, representing state/federal agencies, local government, landowners, reclamation/flood control districts, environmentalists, scientists, boaters, agricultural interests, and elected officials. They reached consensus on the need for restoring and protecting in-channel islands, agreed upon objectives, and established a work group to carry them out. Over the past 18-months, the work group has met regularly on in-channel islands issues, reached agreement on the scope for a demonstration project, selected sites and coordinated early phases of the project.

Status

After a series of rip-rap projects were completed in 1994 and 1995 on in-channel islands around Staten Island, regulatory agencies raised concerns about the possible over-use of rip-rap in habitat protection and restoration projects. The proposed multi-phased demonstration project is already underway. The first phase was project definition and site selection, completed by the work group. The second phase was site inventory and evaluation, prepared by California State University at Sonoma, Spring 1997 at a cost of \$27,000 and funded by the Delta Protection Commission. The pre-evaluation consisted of a full assessment of the "before" conditions on the project sites, including inventory of flora and fauna, elevation of the islands and surrounding underwater lands, soils and other data. The third phase, a conceptual engineering design was recently completed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Waterway Experimentation Station (WES) at a cost of \$3,800 and funded by the Corps.

The WES team of Dr. Craig Fischenich and Hollis Allen reviewed the following information about the proposed sites: topography (channel cross-sections, island and estuarine contour elevations); hydraulic/hydrologic (flow duration curves, frequency analyses, rating curve, tidal); soils/geologic (county soil survey, maps, bed/bank material gradation); climatic (mean monthly temperature and precipitation); ecological (requirements and constraints to include existing and desired habitats, water quality, and sociological needs); wetland vegetation (existing vegetation sources, e.g. sedges, willow, nuisance species). The WES team and work group members met twice and visited proposed sites to assess site conditions, collect additional information, identify data gaps that could require some additional effort by the work group, and to formulate ideas about potential solutions for the demonstration project. Written reports have been generated from the work that is already completed and are available for review.

Biological/Technical Justification

In-channel islands vary in size and habitat value, and in some channels due to their isolation, remain in their historic state. However, in other channels that experience high water velocities due to being a part of the state's water conveyance system, and from heavy use of shipping and boating, the islands are diminishing in both acreage and numbers at a very high rate. (Source: CALFED's *Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan, Volume I*) The Estuary Project's *Status and Trends Report on Wetlands and Related Habitats*, 1991, states "Diking, drainage modifications, erosion and sedimentation have lead to physical alterations or conversions of 92 percent of the Estuary's tidal wetlands." And further, "Urbanization has also indirectly altered wetlands characteristics by modifying local hydrology with dams, water control structures, dikes and levees, dredging and drainage ditches." According to the Estuary Project's *State of the Estuary*, 1992, "The conversion of the estuary's historic wetlands has resulted in the loss of valuable habitats for many species of fish and wildlife. The loss of wetlands affects the estuary in other ways. It diminishes the amount of energy available to the estuarine food web, decreases wetland-related flood control and water quality improvement benefits, and reduces open space."

II. E - Proposed Scope of Work

The proposed scope of work involves the following elements: develop individual site designs, environmental review and permits; project construction; monitoring; and production of a handbook

to guide future restoration. Based on work to date by the work group, including numerous field trips and review of consultants' reports, candidate islands for projects have been tentatively identified. These sites represent a wide range of field conditions focusing on both habitat and engineering considerations.

Design

The design of the demonstration projects will incorporate state of the art guidance and advice from the WES team and other state/federal resource management agencies and consultants. The project design will be based on a consideration of field conditions, technical feasibility, habitat values to be protected and restored, available biotechnical methods, and avoidance of incidental impacts. The candidates selected for this effort are Little Tinsley Island and three small islands of the many which surround Webb Tract. Webb Tract Islands 3, 10 and 21 have been investigated thus far as being representative of the range of conditions which would typically be faced in restoration.

A variety of innovative biotechnical methods will be used to achieve restoration goals and demonstrate techniques. Examples materials are coconut fiber products, brush boxes, live and dead woody stems, pilings and similar structures. Installations will include construction on land and in water and will require appropriate environmental analysis. Additional data are needed at each site prior to developing detailed designs. Such data are detailed surveys (land and bathymetry), boat wave conditions, tidal velocity, substrate characteristics, salinity and other water quality parameters, sources and quality of materials, and site access.

Little Tinsley: This larger in-channel island is currently experiencing erosion primarily due to boat wakes and wind wave forces, although tidal current erosion and weathering of the peat soils are also contributing to bank losses. The owner of Little Tinsley is installing riprap on one end of the island. The demonstration project proposes to use and evaluate several bioengineering alternative techniques such as floating breakwaters and woody plant material along a 600 linear foot shoreline. These techniques will be designed to arrest erosion, protect existing habitat values, and create new habitat areas. Because of its size and other features, Little Tinsley will allow for side-by-side comparisons of a number of techniques, including riprap.

Webb Tract Islands: Islands 3, 10 and 21 have been investigated by the work group and consultants as islands that encompass a range of habitat and other site conditions all within close geographic proximity. These are small remnant islands with different surface elevations, vegetation and other habitat conditions, and different erosion control challenges. Methods being explored for these islands include floating breakwaters, plant materials, and various configurations of groins.

Product: final plans and specs for construction.

Environmental Review/Permits

The project requires appropriate environmental review under CEQA/NEPA and permits or other authorizations from: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; California Dept. of Fish and Game; Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board; State Lands Commission; and including compliance with state and federal endangered species regulations. Most of these agencies have been members of the work group and attended its meetings since its inception. Projects will be reviewed by appropriate local governments.

Product: environmental documentation and required permits.

Construction

The construction phase may entail planting, grading or shaping of bank areas, placement of erosion control materials, and placement of dredged material. Best management practices will be used. Due to concerns about endangered aquatic species, work in the water areas will likely be limited to the period of August 1 to November 30.

Product: installation of demonstration projects.

Monitoring

The monitoring of the installed projects will evaluate effectiveness of methods used, cost comparisons, ease of implementation, suitability, benefits to species and habitat (physical and biological monitoring). See detailed description of monitoring program in *II. F - Monitoring and Data Evaluation* section below.

Product: monitoring report.

Guidelines Report - (Other Services)

The report/handbook is a key tool for enabling volunteer landowners to participate in a restoration program. The handbook will describe and evaluate the various techniques, materials, costs, effectiveness and suitability in differing shoreline situations. It will explain the permitting and regulatory process, and will include effective illustrations, diagrams of installation, maps, and charts. The handbook will be a consensus document, reviewed and approved by the work group and participating state and federal agencies for distribution to any member of the public/private sector interested in future Delta in-channel island protection and restoration projects.

Product: guidelines report/handbook produced for distribution to public.

II. F - Monitoring and Data Evaluation

The monitoring plan's purpose is to evaluate the demonstration project's technological and environmental merits. The expected outcome will be the development of criteria and techniques necessary for the achievement of effective resource management within the Delta. The project calls for an "adaptive monitoring" plan that will allow for the maximum use of resources while achieving the documentation necessary for establishing management guidelines. Several different techniques for stabilization will be used and each of these may require different or modified monitoring techniques. The plan will emphasize habitat monitoring rather than species monitoring, and will be further refined through the permitting and consultation process. It may include:

- 1) Physical/technological monitoring of the different stabilizing approaches
 - stable elevation
 - wave reduction at high water conditions and winter storms
 - evaluation of the longevity of structure
 - comparison between structures
- 2) Biological environmental assessment monitoring
 - vegetation
 - species richness
 - gain or loss of area
 - establishment or failure of members of the shrub/scrub habitat or palustrine forest habitat
 - fauna terrestrial or above the water
 - fauna subtidal
 - special status species
 - it is known that special status species occur at the project sites and they will be included in monitoring efforts, however, the project's goal is for ecosystem improvement and to look beyond individual organisms

Monitoring will take place for a minimum of one-year (one high water season and one low water season - to be used for the development of the handbook), however, up to five-years may be required by permitting agencies. Monitoring may include permanent photo stations, physical and biological parameters, and will be used in analyzing the effects of techniques used at the demonstration sites for stabilizing the island and facing levee. Biological monitoring may include: vegetation recovery, benthic organisms occupying the sites, wildlife use, fisheries resources, and if they occur, analysis of the invasion by non-native species. Physical monitoring may include:

water level, subsidence, substrate accretion, and wave action. No alternative monitoring methods have been identified. There may be a need to evaluate the project on its "environmental friendliness" and its "recreational/aesthetic friendliness".

At the end of the monitoring period, the work group will review and evaluate the findings, and other criteria such as costs, ease of installation, and permitting requirements to be included in the guidelines handbook.

All monitoring data will be made available to the Interagency Ecological Program's monitoring efforts through participating members of the work group's project development subcommittee. The subcommittee will provide general technical expertise, review of data and oversight of the demonstration project. A list of subcommittee members is included in *Section IV - Applicant Qualifications*.

II. G - Implementability

The work group has obtained letters of permission from the following entities: State Lands Commission; California Dept. of Fish and Game (the owner of Webb Tract islands); and Noble Yacht Group (the owner of Little Tinsley Island). In addition, the land managers of Webb Tract are fully supportive of actions to protect and enhance the Webb Tract in-channel islands (Contact: John Winther, Delta Wetlands, 510/282-4216). Additionally, the work group has solicited and obtained 18 statements of general support for in-channel island protection and enhancement from members of the work group and interested parties (see attached list of Coordination of Efforts signatories). Considerable outreach has been accomplished through the Estuary Project's mailing list, its newsletter and the print media. The work group has met approximately every six - eight weeks for the past 18-months and the meeting materials are sent to about 100 individuals/entities each time. Attendance at the meeting ranges from 20 - 35 people. The work group's activities have been discussed in articles in the Stockton Record and the Contra Costa Times.

Required permits have not yet been obtained. By working with state and federal agencies as members of the work group in the site selection and design phase, the work group anticipates the possible use of a § 404 Letter of Permission in obtaining the necessary permits. Regulatory agencies participating in the work group since its beginning are U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Dept. of Fish and Game, State Lands Commission and the Dept. of Boating and Waterways. Approvals needed include: Corps of Engineers; Dept. of Fish and Game; State Lands Commission; and the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board.

All of the above agencies are represented on the work group as well as representatives from the following: Pacific Inter-Club Yachting Association; Kjeldsen, Sinnock & Neudeck, Inc.; EIP Associates; Murray, Burns, & Kienlen; DCC Engineering, Natural Heritage Institute; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9; Delta Protection Commission; water agencies; and others representing landowners and reclamation districts.

References

- ABAG, Romberg Tiburon Centers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1991. Status and Trends Report on Wetlands and Related Habitats in the San Francisco Estuary. Oakland, Calif. 209 pp.
- ABAG 1992. State of the Estuary. A Report on Conditions and Problems in the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary. Oakland, Calif. 269 pp.
- CALFED, Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan. Executive Summary and Tables Working Draft. Sacramento, Calif. 99 pp.
- CALFED, Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan, Volume I. Visions for Ecosystem Elements. Sacramento, Calif. 297 pp.

III. B - Schedule Milestones Table

The Delta in-channel islands demonstration project is a two-year project and tasks have designated milestones as stated below. Quarterly reports will be submitted as well as monthly accounting statements.

Demonstration Project - Organizational Tasks

Task I:	Hiring Process for Project Coordinator	
	- Work group writes and distributes request for proposals	February 1, 1998
	or organizes hiring process	March 1 - 31, 1998
Task II:	Candidate Interview/Selection Process	
	Competitive Bid Process for Design Engineers	March 1 - 31, 1998
	- Work group/Project coordinator organizes process	April 1 - 30, 1998
Task III:	- Work group interviews, makes selection	
	Competitive Bid Process for Construction Engineers	May 1, 1998
	- Project coordinator organizes process	June 1 - 15, 1998
Task IV:	- Work group interviews, makes selection	
	Meeting Organization and Development of Materials	
	- Project coordinator assists with development and	
	distribution of materials (at least 6 meetings annually)	March 1998 - February 2000
Task V:	Review of Design, Construction, Monitoring Phases	
	- Project coordinator assists work group review	March 1998 - February 2000

Demonstration Project - Construction/Restoration Tasks

Task I:	Additional data required/collected -	May 1, 1998 - Oct. 1,
Task II:	Project design, detailed specs -	February 1 - July 1, 1998
Task III:	Environmental review and permits -	April 15 - August 30, 1998
Task IV:	Construction -	August 15 - Dec. 10, 1998
Task V:	Monitoring -	Oct. 1, 1998 - Dec. 10, 1999

Production and Distribution of Guidelines/Report- Services Tasks

Task I:	Write first draft -	March 1 - April 15, 1999
	Work group reviews -	April 16 - May 31, 1999
Task II:	Develop graphics/tables/figures -	April 1 - May 15, 1999
Task III:	Revise first draft -	July 15, 1999
	Work group reviews second draft with graphics -	July 16 - August 30, 1999
Task IV:	Revise second draft -	September 1 - Oct. 1, 1999
	Final review by work group -	Oct. 2 - November 7, 1999
Task V:	Complete final revisions -	November 30, 1999
Task VI:	To graphics designer for final layout -	December 1, 1999
Task VII:	To printer -	January 4, 2000
Task VIII:	Distribution -	January 31, 2000

III. C - Third Party Impacts

As mentioned in Section III. C - Expected Benefits, the project will be designed so as to have no adverse impacts to water quality or water supply reliability due to construction methods. The sites are independent of other land uses and land forms and would have no adverse impacts to water conveyance, flood control land uses such as agriculture, levee stability, or recreational activities. Precautions will be taken to use best management practices for preventing erosion and resulting sediment problems. A purpose of the project is to retain on-site sediment to maximize shallow water habitat which will minimize sediment loading in the water column.

- Budget Table 1 -

Demonstration Project - Organizational Tasks

Project Phase and Task	Direct Labor Hours	Direct Salary and Benefits	Misc. and Other Direct Costs	Category III
Task I				\$2,000
Hire Project Coordinator	50	\$2,000		
- Work Group	134	\$8,000		
Task II				\$3,000
Bid Process and Design Engineering	111	\$3,000		
- Work Group	66	\$4,000		
Task III				\$3,000
Bid Process and Construction Engineering	111	\$3,000		
- Work Group	66	\$4,000		
Task IV			Travel: \$4,200	\$23,700
Meetings and Support	555.5	\$15,000	Printing: \$4,000	
- Work Group	360	\$21,600	Misc: \$500	
Task V				\$14,000
Review Process	518.5	\$14,000		
- Work Group	360	\$21,600		
Task SubTotal	2332		\$8,700	\$45,700
ABAG 10%				\$5,078
Category III				\$50,778
Total In-Kind				\$106,950
Work Group	\$59,200			
ABAG	\$23,750			
RWQCB	\$24,00			
Total Task Budget				\$152,650

- Budget Table II -

Demonstration Project - Construction/Restoration Tasks

Project Phase and Task	Direct Labor Hours	Direct Salary and Benefits	Overhead Labor (General Administration and Fee)	Service Contracts	Material and Acquisition Contracts	Misc. and Other Direct Costs	Category III
Task I				\$100,000			\$100,000
Project Design							
- Additional Data							
- Work Group	50	\$3,000					
Task II				\$100,000			\$100,000
Environmental Review and Permits							
- Work Group	50	\$3,000					
Task III							
Construction Materials					\$194,500		\$194,500
- Labor	2150	\$128,050	\$32,013				\$160,063
- Contractor's Profit			\$29,175				\$95,437
- Oversight and Training					\$66,262		
- Work Group	50	\$3,000					

Task IV Maintenance Work Group	50	\$3,000		\$20,000			\$20,000
Task V Monitoring Work Group	50	\$3,000		\$80,000			\$80,000

Task SubTotal	2400	\$128,050	\$61,188	\$300,000	\$260,762		\$750,000
ABAG 10% Overhead							\$83,333
Total Category III Funds							\$833,333
In-Kind / Workgroup	\$15,000						\$15,000
Task Total							\$848,333

Budget Table II A

**DELTA IN-CHANNEL ISLAND DEMONSTRATION PROJECT
CONSTRUCTION COST ESTIMATES**

SITE	TREATMENT	AMOUNT	MATERIALS (\$)	LABOR (HRS)	LABOR (\$)
Little Tinsley	Log Module	500 feet	\$25,000	250	\$6750
	Anchors	50 units	\$15,000	50	\$1350
	Coir fascine	1000 feet	\$15,000	225	\$6075
	Willow posts	300 units	0	30	\$810
	Willow wattling	500 feet	0	100	\$2700
	Willow cuttings	500 feet	\$1000	50	\$1350
	Plant rolls	500 feet	\$1000	50	\$1350
	Plant seedlings	2000 units	\$2000	70	\$1890
Webb Tract #3	Peaked stone dike (groins) - labor & materials	200 feet (100 tons)	0	0	\$35,000
	Log Module	500 feet	\$25,000	250	\$6750
	Anchors	50 units	\$15,000	50	\$1350
	Plant rolls	500 feet	\$1000	50	\$1350
	Willow posts	100 units	0	10	\$270
	Willow wattling	200 feet	0	40	\$1080
	Willow cuttings	1000 units	0	25	\$675
	Trees (as breakwater)	4000 feet	0	300	\$8100
Webb Tract #21	Anchors	200 units	\$60,000	200	\$5400
Webb Tract #10	Log module	500 feet	\$25,000	250	\$6750
	Coir fascine	500 feet	\$7500	115	\$3105
	Plant seedlings	1000 units	\$2000	35	\$945
	Peaked stone dikes (groins)	200 feet (100 tons)	0	0	\$35,000
SUBTOTAL			\$194,500	2150	\$128,050
ADMIN., OH, & FEE			+15% = \$223,675		+25% = \$160,063
OVERSITE					\$66,262
TOTAL			\$450,000		

- Budget Table III -

Demonstration Project - Guidelines/Report (Service Tasks)

Project Phase and Task	Direct Labor Hours	Direct Salary and Benefits	Overhead Labor (General Administration and Fee)	Service Contracts	Material and Acquisition Contracts	Misc. and Other Direct Costs	Category III
Task I Write Report (2 Drafts & Final) - Work Group	1166	\$31,500				Print Drafts: \$1,500 Travel: \$1,800	\$34,800
Task II Graphics and Layout - Work Group		\$6,000					\$6,000
Task III Print 1000 (2-color, 70-80 pgs.) - Work Group				\$11,000			\$11,000
Task IV Post all Information on Internet - Work Group						\$4,000 Postage: \$500.00	\$4,000

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I-004204

- Budget Table III - (Continued)

Demonstration Project - Guidelines/Report (Service Tasks)

Task SubTotal	1166	\$37,500			\$11,000	\$7,300	\$55,800
ABAG 10% Overhead							\$6,200
Total Category III Funds							\$62,000
In-Kind / Workgroup	\$23,500						\$24,000
Task Total							\$86,000

IV. Applicant Qualifications

ABAG and the San Francisco Estuary Project

ABAG is owned and operated by the cities and counties of the San Francisco Bay Region. It was organized in 1961 under the Joint Exercise of Powers Act [California government Code Section 6500 et seq.] to help solve problems in areas such as land use, transportation, environmental quality, housing and economic development. It is designated for planning purposes under several federal and California state laws, and serves as the area-wide clearinghouse for federal Executive Order 12372.

The Association is governed by a General Assembly representing city and county officials, and has a 38-member Executive Board of county supervisors, mayors and city council members. The Executive Board provides policy direction to its committees and staff between meetings of the General Assembly. ABAG works cooperatively through interagency agreements and memoranda of understanding with other regional and state and federal agencies.

The San Francisco Estuary Project (SFEP) is a joint state/federal/local partnership that was established in 1987 under the Clean Water Act's National Estuary Program to develop and implement the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) for the Bay-Delta Estuary. SFEP's purpose is to develop effective management, restore water quality and natural resources, while maintaining economic vitality through the implementation of the CCMP. The CCMP's nine program areas and 145 actions recognize the Estuary's environmental value and the need to manage habitats within the sub-watersheds from an ecosystem perspective.

SFEP is housed within the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board, which was designated as the lead agency for implementing the CCMP; and ABAG acts as SFEP's fiscal agent. SFEP's committees working with agencies, interest groups and consultants have carried out many demonstration projects over the past years to restore and preserve habitat in the Bay-Delta Estuary. Some of these include the following projects: Alameda Creek Watershed Resource Management; Citizen Monitoring of Streams at Coyote Creek Riparian Station; Wildcat Creek and San Pablo Creek Habitat Restoration; Regional Inventory of Fishes and Riparian Habitat; and Wildcat Creek Grazing Management in Contra Costa County. ABAG is the fiscal agent for the Bay Trail Project, a multi-million dollar project to build a public access trail around the San Francisco Bay. Reports of these projects are available upon request.

Project Organization - Work Group

The Estuary Project has taken the lead responsibility for organizational and administrative tasks for the work group since its inception, and the Estuary Project will continue in this role for the demonstration project. Several work group members have been instrumental in their support of the work group and its goals and have assisted the Estuary Project with funding for the work group's facilitator, Paul Schwarz. Estuary Project staff work closely with a small core group, that serves as an informal executive committee to assist with the development of meeting agendas and materials. These members are: Rick Morat, US Fish and Wildlife Service; Margit Aramburu, Delta Protection Commission; Frank Gray, Calif. Dept. of Fish and Game; Diana Jacobs, State Lands Commission; and Curt Schmutte or Kent Nelson, Dept. of Water Resources. CALFED staff also attend and participate in work group meetings.

The work group has determined that several consultants will be hired through ABAG's competitive bid process as follows:

- 1) an on-the-ground "day-to-day" coordinator with technical expertise and experience in restoration/construction projects;
- 2) consultants for development of design/engineering plans for sites;

- 3) consultants for additionally needed data;
- 4) consultants for construction of restoration projects;
- 5) consultants for writing, editing and producing guidelines/report.

Work group members (see below for list of members) will provide technical and scientific review/expertise and will serve as the hands-on oversight body for the demonstration project. The work group will continue to provide in-kind services for the technical/scientific review tasks for the demonstration project.

Work group members include: Rick Morat and Matt Vandenberg, US Fish and Wildlife Service; Margit Aramburu, Delta Protection Commission; Frank Gray, Ed Littrell, and Pat Brantley, Calif. Dept. of Fish and Game; Diana Jacobs and Jane Sekelsky, State Lands Commission; Curt Schmutte and Kent Nelson, Dept. of Water Resources; Karen Shaffer and Lynn O'Leary, US Army Corps of Engineers; Luisa Valiela, US EPA, Region 9; Bill Curry, Dept. of Boating and Waterways; Richard Nichols, EIP Assoc.; Phil Schaefer, Pacific Inter Club Yachting Assoc.; Gil Labrie, DCC Engineering; Chris Kjeldsen, Sonoma State Univ.; Andrew Leiser, Prof. Emeritus, UC Davis (EIP); Ken Kjeldsen and Jerry Hadley, Kjeldsen, Sinnock & Neudeck, Inc.; Gilbert Cosio and Mark Fortner, Murray, Burns & Kienlen; Earl Cooley, Medford Island; Jeremy Thomas, Natural Heritage Inst.; and those attending but not on a regular basis; Gary Tilkian, Metropolitan Water Dist.; Elaine Archibald, CUWA; Chris Mobley, National Marine Fisheries Service.

Project Organization - SFEP/ABAG

Marcia Brockbank, SFEP Program Manager will serve as the Technical Contact and overall manager for the demonstration project, with responsibilities for contract management. She is an ABAG employee on an intergovernmental personnel assignment to the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board. She has been with the Estuary Project since 1987 and the Program Manager since 1994. She has overseen a wide array of consensus-based activities aimed at implementing the 145 actions in the CCMP. She received her BA from the University of Utah. Brockbank has no financial interest in the demonstration project, the funding for her position is provided through an EPA grant under Section 320 of the Clean Water Act. She resigned as a member of the Bay-Delta Advisory Council, representing the Estuary Project as of July 23, 1997.

ABAG will serve as the fiscal agent for the demonstration project, and ABAG staff will provide 2.5 percent in-kind accounting, managerial and administrative support in the amount of \$23,750. Staff include: Gary Binger, Planning Director and SFEP Liaison; Joe Chan, Finance Director; Terry Bursztynsky, Environmental Management Director; Marcia Brockbank, SFEP Program Manager, Liz Blair, Communications Officer; and Marcie Adams, Communications Officer.

V. Compliance

The Delta in-channel islands demonstration project consists of two applicant types: Construction and Other Services. ABAG acting as the San Francisco Estuary Project's fiscal agent can comply with the terms and conditions described in the request for proposals. We are submitting the required signed forms for a Construction applicant and Other Services. (Forms are attached)

San Francisco Estuary Project



2101 Webster St., Ste. 500
Oakland, CA 94612
(510) 286-0460
Fax (510) 286-0928

COORDINATION OF EFFORTS TO PROMOTE THE CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION OF SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA IN-CHANNEL ISLANDS

WHEREAS, natural Delta in-channel islands are an important fish and wildlife habitat resource, and provide habitat for many special status species;

WHEREAS, many Delta in-channel islands provide for other valuable functions such as recreational, aesthetic and levee protection benefits;

WHEREAS, many Delta in-channel islands are diminishing in both acreage and numbers at an unacceptably high rate;

WHEREAS, it appears that it is the unanimous desire of all interests that the Delta would benefit ecologically from the conservation and restoration of the in-channel islands;

WHEREAS, the geographic scope of this agreement has been set as the legal Delta;

WHEREAS, all interests acknowledge that there are other beneficial uses of the Delta, such as water conveyance and recreation, it is the desire of all interests that Delta in-channel islands be conserved and restored to acreage and sites that maximize their ecological benefits, while considering other beneficial uses;

THEREFORE, parties signatory to this agreement (may consist of agencies, non-governmental organizations, governmental bodies, individuals/landowners, and others) agree to work together to reach and implement the goal of halting the decline and degradation of, and working toward the restoration of Delta in-channel islands.

It is envisioned that this goal would be furthered by efforts to promote the following objectives:

Identify conservation and restoration techniques appropriate to site conditions and resource needs;

Identify sites/locales where objectives differ;

Identify work windows (periods to minimize adverse impacts of restoration work activities);

Identify concerns and strategies for surface elevation (relationship to sea-level) objectives;

Identify vegetation objectives;

Address mitigation concerns with respect to conservation/restoration activities, multiple resource value considerations, and the issue of projects serving as mitigation banks for other projects;

Identify incentive strategies for voluntary implementation;

Identify means to improve regulatory and permitting processes to facilitate achievement of resource objectives;

Identify potential funding and in-lieu resources to maximize partnerships/collaboration, and;

Develop a tool such as a channel islands restoration and management manual supportive of the ecosystem functions.

This agreement is not in any way binding. Signatories may enter without constraint and remove themselves by a simple letter noting such to the San Francisco Estuary Project (SFEPP). It is hoped those parties committed to collaborative efforts will participate appropriately.

SIGNATORIES

Signature over printed name/date.

Coordination of Efforts to Promote the Conservation and Restoration of Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta In-Channel Islands

COORDINATION OF EFFORTS

**List of Signatories
as of May 1, 1997**

Bouldin Farming Company
California Urban Water Agencies
CA Dept. of Water Resources
CA State Lands Commission
CALFED Bay-Delta Program
Delta Protection Commission
Delta Wetlands
EIP Associates
Medford Island Habitat Conservation Area
National Marine Fisheries Service
Natural Heritage Institute
Reclamation District 736
Reclamation District 2026
Reclamation District 2028
San Francisco Estuary Project
San Joaquin Audubon Society
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9

NONDISCRIMINATION COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

COMPANY NAME

Association of Bay Area Governments

The company named above (hereinafter referred to as "prospective contractor") hereby certifies, unless specifically exempted, compliance with Government Code Section 12990 (a-f) and California Code of Regulations, Title 2, Division 4, Chapter 5 in matters relating to reporting requirements and the development, implementation and maintenance of a Nondiscrimination Program. Prospective contractor agrees not to unlawfully discriminate, harass or allow harassment against any employee or applicant for employment because of sex, race, color, ancestry, religious creed, national origin, disability (including HIV and AIDS), medical condition (cancer), age, marital status, denial of family and medical care leave and denial of pregnancy disability leave.

CERTIFICATION

I, the official named below, hereby swear that I am duly authorized to legally bind the prospective contractor to the above described certification. I am fully aware that this certification, executed on this date and in the county below, is made under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California.

OFFICIAL'S NAME

Eugene Y. Leong

DATE EXECUTED

7/25/97

EXECUTED IN THE COUNTY OF

Alameda

PROSPECTIVE CONTRACTOR'S SIGNATURE

Eugene Y. Leong

PROSPECTIVE CONTRACTOR'S TITLE

Executive Director

PROSPECTIVE CONTRACTOR'S LEGAL BUSINESS NAME

Agreement No. _____

Exhibit _____

**NONCOLLUSION AFFIDAVIT TO BE EXECUTED BY
 BIDDER AND SUBMITTED WITH BID FOR PUBLIC WORKS**

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)

COUNTY OF Alameda)ssEugene Y. Leong

(name)

, being first duly sworn, deposes and

says that he or she is Executive Director of
 (position title)

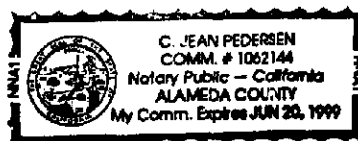
Association of Bay Area Governments

(the bidder)

the party making the foregoing bid that the bid is not made in the interest of, or on behalf of, any undisclosed person, partnership, company, association, organization, or corporation; that the bid is genuine and not collusive or sham; that the bidder has not directly or indirectly induced or solicited any other bidder to put in a false sham bid, and has not directly or indirectly colluded, conspired, connived, or agreed with any bidder or anyone else to put in a sham bid, or that anyone shall refrain from bidding; that the bidder has not in any manner, directly or indirectly, sought by agreement, communication, or conference with anyone to fix the bid price of the bidder or any other bidder, or to fix any overhead, profit, or cost element of the bid price, or of that of any other bidder, or to secure any advantage against the public body awarding the contract of anyone interested in the proposed contract; that all statements contained in the bid are true; and, further, that the bidder has not, directly or indirectly, submitted his or her bid price or any breakdown thereof, or the contents thereof, or divulged information or data relative thereto, or paid, and will not pay, any fee to any corporation, partnership, company, association, organization, bid depository, or to any member or agent thereof to effectuate a collusive or sham bid.

DATED: July 25, 1997By Eugene Y. Leong

(person signing for bidder)

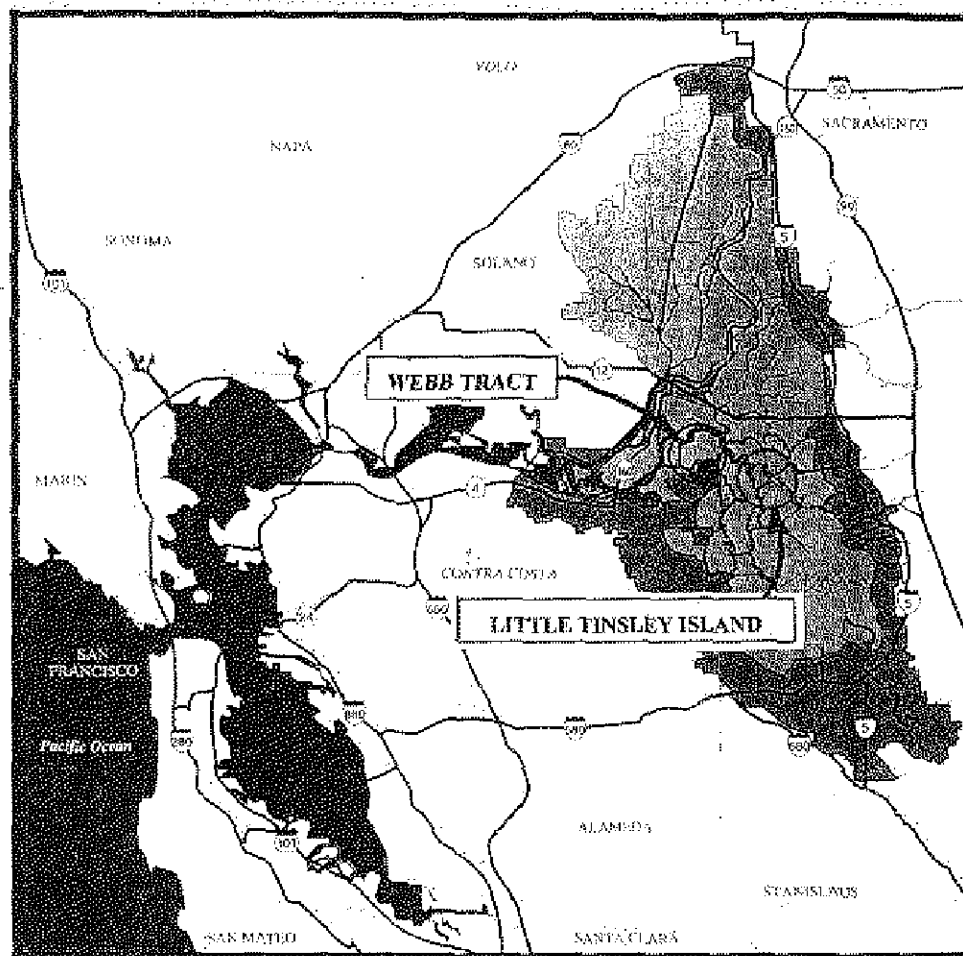


(Notarial Seal)



Subscribed and sworn to before me on

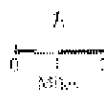
July 25, 1997

[Signature]
 (Notary Public)

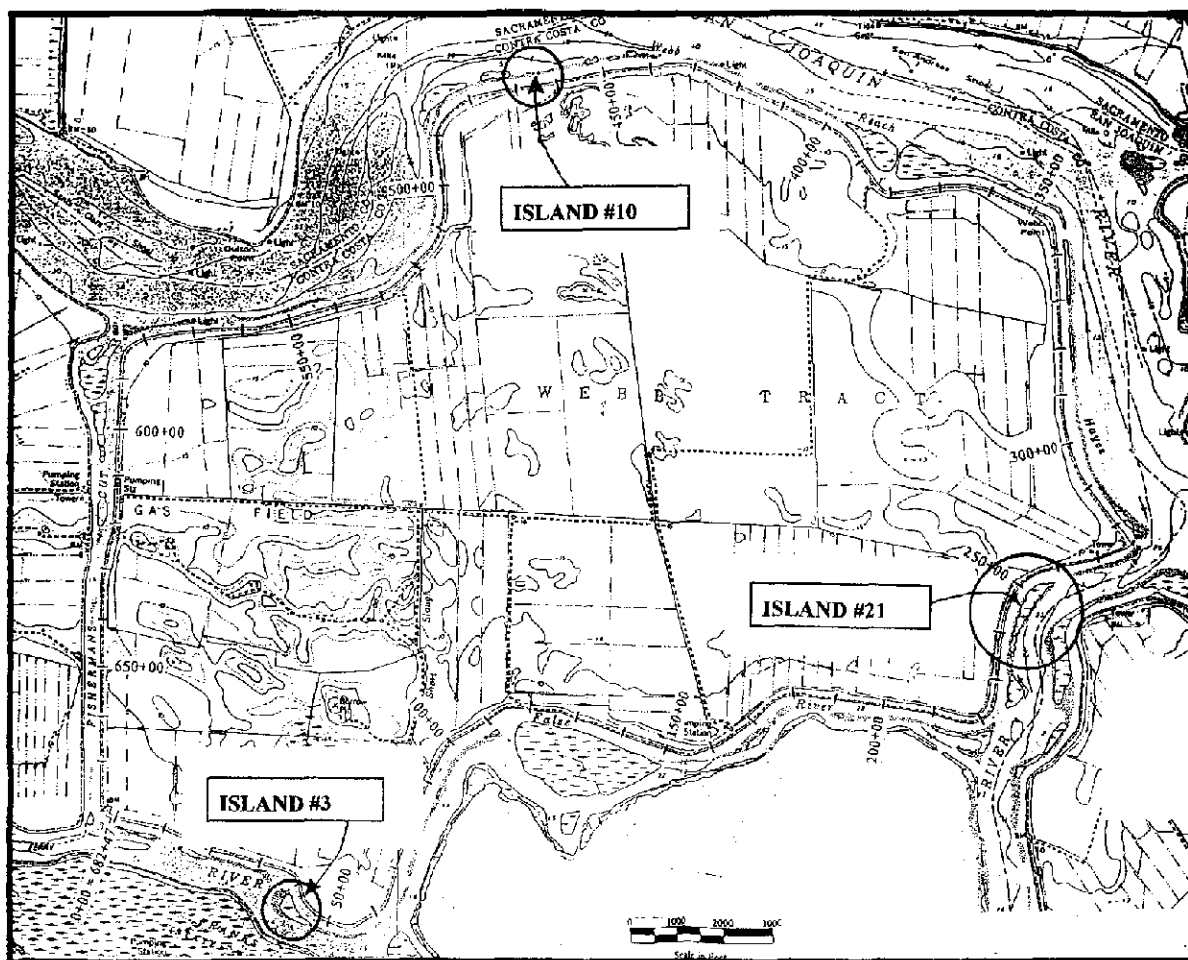


LEGEND

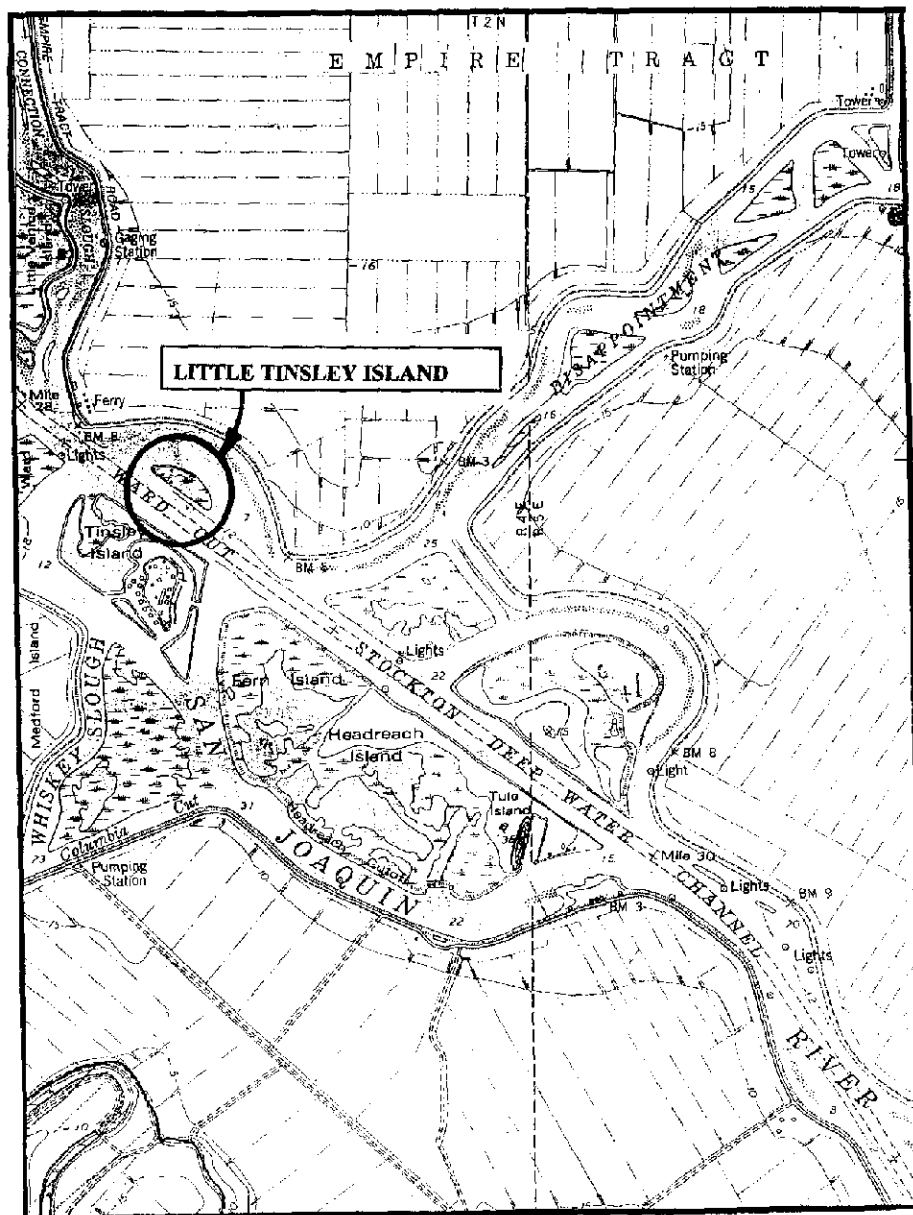
-  Primary Zone
-  Secondary Zone

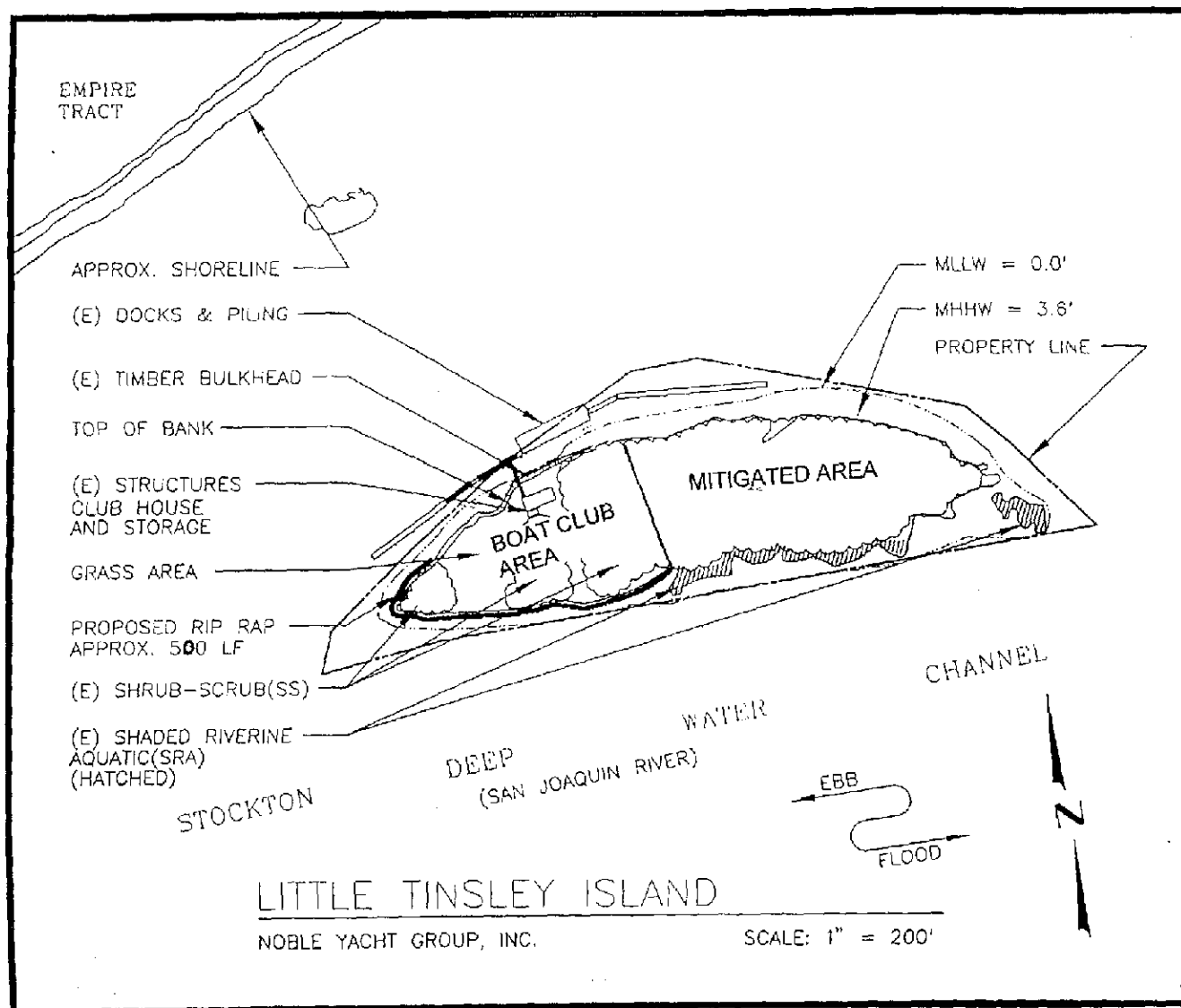


REGIONAL LOCATION MAP



WEBB TRACT





I. Executive Summary

DWR WAREHOUSE

a. Project Title and Applicant Name

97 JUL 28 PM 3:05

Project Title: Spivey Pond Acquisition, Mr. Dave Spivey, seller

Applicant Name: Mr. Dave Harlow, Assistant Field Supervisor for Endangered Species and Contaminants, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 3310 Cottage Way, Suite 102, Sacramento, California 95824

b. Project Description and Primary Biological/Ecological Objectives

On July 1, 1997, a breeding population of California red-legged frogs was located in a small pond on North Fork Weber Creek, in El Dorado county near Placerville, California. California red-legged frogs were thought to be nearly extirpated from the Sierra Nevada at the time of it's listing in 1996 and this discovery is the first significant population located within this portion of the range in more than twenty five years. This site is located on private lands currently under consideration for timber harvest. The purchase of this site offers an excellent opportunity to recover the California red-legged frog in the central Sierra Nevada. Weber Creek has long been thought to provide a refugia for California red-legged frog in the Sierra Nevada. The location of this population in area presents a significant opportunity to recover the species not only within the Weber Creek watershed, but also within adjacent drainages, thus moving the species closer to recovery. The western Sierra Nevada below 4,500 feet elevation is listed as a recovery unit in the final rule listing the species as threatened May 23, 1996. This site is situated at 3,200 feet elevation on the North Fork Weber Creek, a tributary to the South Fork American River. This proposal to purchase the 56 acre parcel and transfer ownership to the adjacent Eldorado National Forest would provide protection and management certainty for this important population.

c. Approach/Tasks/Schedule

Approach. The Service staff will actively be involved in all aspects of the land acquisition. At all stages of land acquisition, Service staff will suggest/recommend improvements and incorporation of actions beneficial to fish and wildlife.

d. Justification For Project and Funding by CALFED

Water diversions via Weber Dam (5 miles downstream) and Central Valley Project activities have significantly contributed to the reduction of California red-legged frog populations throughout it's range. The construction of large reservoirs have facilitated the introduction of non-native fishes and other predators which has had a significant impact on the California red-legged frog within the western Sierra Nevada and the central valley. The California red-legged frog is a frog of marshes, ponds, and low gradient stream reaches that support back water areas with emergent vegetation, as well as larger vernal pool

habitats occurring from valley level to approximately 5,000 feet elevation. Prior to the agricultural and urban development of the central valley the California red-legged frog was abundant and well distributed within the wetland habitats of this region. The subsequent draining, conversion of wetland habitats associated with the construction of reservoirs and water diversions within the Central Valley hydrologic basin has significantly reduced the range of the California red-legged frog.

Continued urbanization, development of infrastructure, and out growth of the Central Valley projects indirect effects continue to significant negative effects to the survival and recovery of the California red-legged frog. The growth of rural El Dorado county poses an immediate threat to recovering the California red-legged frog within this portion of it's range in the absence of aggressive recovery efforts. The purchase of this site will begin the process of recovery and the umbrella strategy to preserve the species and its habitat in the western Sierra Nevada.

e. Budget Costs and Third Party Impacts

The 56 acre parcel is on the market for \$350,000. The owner has planned to harvest the merchantable off the land prior to sale, thus, the asking price does not reflect the value of the timber. The landowner has agreed to hold off on logging the land until the issue of land acquisition is resolved. As with any land acquisition the county is interested in maintaining the tax base. O&M costs will be an additional \$500,000.

f. Applicant Qualifications

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is one of the Federal agencies with a co-lead responsibility for preparation of a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement For the CALFED Bay-Delta Program (Program). The Service is the only agency with regulatory authority under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and responsibility under the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (FWCA) and the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (CVPIA).

g. Monitoring and Data Evaluation

We propose that the acquired land be turned over the the U.S. Forest Service for future management.

h. Local Support/Coordination with other Programs/Campatibility with CALFED objectives

Spivey Pond Acquisition

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
3310 El Camino Ave. Suite 130
Sacramento, California 95821

U.S. Forest Service
Eldorado National Forest
100 Forni Road
Placerville, California 95667

II. Title Page (1 page)

a. Title of Project

Spivey Pond Acquisition

b. Name of applicant/principle investigator(s), address, phone/fax/E-mail (if different from above)

Wayne White, Acting Area Regional Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, 3310 El Camino, Suite 120, Sacramento, California 95824/ (916)979-2129/ FAX: (916)9079-2744/
E-mail: Wayne_White@mail.fws.gov

c. Type of Organization and Tax Status

Federal Agency

d. Tax Identification Number and /or Contractor license, as applicable

N/A

e. Technical and Financial Contact person(s), address, phone/fax/E-mail (if different from above)

Technical Contact: Joel Medlin, Deputy Field Supervisor, address, phone, and fax as above,
E-mail: Joel_Medlin@mail.fws.gov or Jean Elder, CALFED Bay-Delta Coordinator, address,
phone, and fax as above, E-mail: Evelyn_Elder@mail.fws.gov

Financial Contact: David Patte, Chief, Budget and Finance, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,
Region I, Eastside Federal Complex, 911 N. E. 11th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97232-4181

f. Participants/Collaborators in Implementation

Fish and Wildlife Service Staff as appropriate.

g. RFP Project Group Types(s) (Construction; Acquisition; Other Services)

Group 3: Services

III. Project Description (no more than 6 pages plus maps and/or figures)

a. Project Description and Approach

This site is located on private lands currently under consideration for timber harvest. The purchase of this site offers an excellent opportunity to recover the California red-legged frog in the central Sierra Nevada. Weber Creek has long been thought to provide a refugia for California red-legged frog in the Sierra Nevada. The location of this population in area presents a significant opportunity to recover the species not only within the Weber Creek watershed, but also within adjacent drainages, thus moving the species closer to recovery. The western Sierra Nevada below 4,500 feet elevation is listed as a recovery unit in the final rule listing the species as threatened May 23, 1996. This site is situated at 3,200 feet elevation on the North Fork Weber Creek, a tributary to the South Fork American River. This proposal to purchase the 56 acre parcel and transfer ownership to the adjacent Eldorado National Forest would provide protection and management certainty for this important population.

b. Location and/or geographic boundaries of project

This site is situated at 3,200 feet elevation on the North Fork Weber Creek, a tributary to the South Fork American River

c. Expected benefit(s)

Increases in distribution and abundance of the California red-legged frog may lead to eventual delisting.

d. Background and Biological/Technical Justification

Water diversions via Weber Dam (5 miles downstream) and Central Valley Project activities have significantly contributed to the reduction of California red-legged frog populations throughout its range. The construction of large reservoirs have facilitated the introduction of non-native fishes and other predators which has had a significant impact on the California red-legged frog within the western Sierra Nevada and the central valley. The California red-legged frog is a frog of marshes, ponds, and low gradient stream reaches that support back water areas with emergent vegetation, as well as larger vernal pool habitats occurring from valley level to approximately 5,000 feet elevation. Prior to the agricultural and urban development of the central valley the California red-legged frog was abundant and well distributed within the wetland habitats of this region. The subsequent draining, conversion of wetland habitats associated with the construction of reservoirs and water diversions within the Central Valley hydrologic basin has significantly reduced the California red-legged frog range.

Continued urbanization, development of infrastructure, and out growth of the Central Valley projects indirect effects continue to significant negative effects to the survival and recovery of

the California red-legged frog. The growth of rural El Dorado county poses a grim threat to recovering the California red-legged frog within this portion of it's range in the absence of aggressive recovery efforts. The purchase of this site will begin the process of recovery and the umbrella strategy to preserve the species and its habitat in the western Sierra Nevada.

e. Proposed Scope of Work

See project description and approach above.

f. Monitoring and Data Evaluation

Service staff will be involved in reviewing monitoring plans associated with the acquisition, evaluating the results, and providing recommendations to improve methodologies and proposals as well as remedial measures.

g. Implementability

Acquisition can be implemented upon receipt of funds.

IV. Costs and Schedule to Implement Proposed Project (no more than 2 pages plus tables and/or figures)

a. Budget Costs

\$350,00 for initial acquisition

\$500,000 for O & M

Total--\$850,000

b. Schedule Milestones

Initial purchase--immediate on receipt of funding

O&M--monthly

c. Third Party Impacts

Initial and frequent Service participation will expedite acquisition and facilitate consistency with Service policy, rules, regulations and projects under the authority of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

V. Applicant Qualifications (no more than 3 pages, including tables)

Professional staff will be used in accordance with their respective expertise.

VI. Compliance with standard terms and conditions (no more than 1 page plus forms)

Compliance with standard Federal contracting terms and conditions will be met.

O. Contract Requirements